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EXTRAORDINARY

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MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

(Agriculture)

ORDER

New Delhi, the 27th November, 1951.

S.R.O. 1867.—In exercise of the powers conferred by section 3 of the Essential Supplies (Temporary Powers) Act, 1946 (XXIV of 1946), the Central Government hereby makes the following order, namely:—

1. (i) This order may be called the Paddy Straw (Prevention of Use for Packing) Prohibition Order, 1951.
- (ii) It extends to the whole of the State of Madras.
- (iii) It shall come into force at once and shall cease to be in force on the expiration of a period of six months except as respects things done or omitted to be done.
2. In this order unless the context otherwise requires:—
 - (a) 'packing' means the act of wrapping covering or bundling up any article or articles with paddy straw either by filling up empty spaces with paddy straw or otherwise, with the object of reducing the chances of the breakage of, or damage to, the article or articles;
 - (b) "paddy straw" means dry cut stalks of rice plant.
3. No person shall, use or cause to be used any paddy straw for the purpose of packing any article or articles.
4. Any Revenue Officer not below the rank of a Revenue Inspector, any Police Officer not below the rank of a Sub-Inspector and any Officer of the Department of Agriculture not below the rank of an Agricultural Demonstrator, may enter upon and search any premises, vehicles, vessel or air craft containing any parcel or package in respect of which he has reason to believe that a contravention of this Order has been, is being or is about to be committed and may seize any such parcel or package:

Provided that in exercising power of search, such officer shall have due regard to the social and religious customs of any occupants of the premises or any persons in the vehicle, vessel or aircraft.

5. A court trying any contravention of this Order may, without prejudice to any other sentence which it may pass, direct that any paddy straw in respect of which it is satisfied that such contravention has occurred shall be forfeited to the Government.

[No. F.30-13/51-EP.]

VISHNU SAHAY, Secy.

(1413)

